

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5           1. A method of transmitting messages in a tele-  
communication system comprising a first network offering  
circuit-switched services, a second network offering  
packet-switched services, and at least one mobile station  
supporting the first and the second network, the method  
10 comprising the steps of: checking, in response to the  
need to transmit at least one message, if the mobile sta-  
tion is attached to the second network,  
transmitting said at least one message to the  
second network in response to the mobile station being  
15 attached to the second network, and  
transmitting said at least one message to the  
first network in response to failure to transmit the mes-  
sage via the second network.
- 20           2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said  
message is transmitted via the first network in response  
to non-attachment to the second network.
- 25           3. A method as claimed in claim 1, further com-  
prising the steps of: suspending packet-switched service  
in the second network before transmitting said message to  
the first network, and  
continuing offering the packet-switched service  
after transmission of said message at the request of the  
30 first network or the mobile station.
- 35           4. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein  
the first network is a GSM network and the second  
network is a GPRS network.

5. A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said message is a text-based short message of a short message service SMS or a picture message.

5           6. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein  
the user of the mobile station is offered the option to choose whether the messages are transmitted via the first network or the second network, and  
the messages are transmitted in accordance with  
10 the user's choice.

7. A mobile station comprising message means for transmitting messages via a first network offering circuit-switched services and via a second network offering  
15 packet-switched services, wherein said message means are configured to

check, in response to the need to transmit at least one message, if the mobile station is attached to the second network,

20           transmit said at least one message to the second network in response to the mobile station being attached to the second network, and

transmit said at least one message to the first network in response to failure to transmit the message  
25 via the second network.

8. A mobile station as claimed in claim 7, wherein

30           said message means are configured to transmit said message via the first network in response to non-attachment to the second network.

9. A mobile station as claimed in claim 7, wherein

35           the mobile station's user interface (UI) is configured to display a menu offering the user of the mobile

